

## BRIGGS ACQUITTED.

Is Found Not Guilty on the Six Charges of Heresy.

Presbyterians Pre'er Liberalism to Conservatism.

Sixty-six Out of 129 Votes Were Solid for the Professor.

The all-absorbing subject of discussion in religious circles of all denominations today is the action of the New York Presbytery last night in acquitting Prof. Charles A. Briggs, of the Union Theological Seminary, of the six charges of heresy brought against him by the Presbyterian Church of the United States through its special prosecuting committee.

A more surprising and unexpected decision has not been reached by any deliberative body in many a day.

Not only is the acquittal entirely a surprise in view of the evidence, but the support developed by the accused Pro-essor when his innocence was put to a vote was remarkable. Out of 129 voting members of the Presbytery a majority not less than ten voted down every one of the six charges of heresy, and thereby demonstrated beyond the shadow of a doubt that liberalism in the Presbyterian Church in New York is much preferable to conservatism.

The fight which has been waged between these two factions in the church, with Dr. Briggs as the ostensible target, is ended, so far as the triumph of the liberalism is concerned, and the latter's teachings that there is sanctification of souls after death, that the Church and reason have divine origin and that the Bible is full of errors are shown to be the creed of a majority of the New York Presbyterians, although the church, outside of this State, may repudiate them.

The presbytery continued their executive session at 9 o'clock yesterday afternoon and two hours later proceeded to vote on the charges.

It was known that a few votes had been gained by the accused Professor, since the close of the trial, but it was believed that a conviction was certain by a bare majority.

The charges, which follow, were read, and the vote taken on each specification and charge:

Charge I.—The Presbyterian Church in the United States of America charges the Rev. Charles A. Briggs, D. D., being a minister of the said Church and a member of the Presbytery of New York, with teaching that Jesus is not the Son of God, and that the Holy Spirit is a created being, and that the Bible is full of errors, and that the Church and reason have divine origin, and that the Bible is full of errors, and that the Church and reason have divine origin, and that the Bible is full of errors.

Charge II.—The Presbyterian Church in the United States of America charges the Rev. Charles A. Briggs, D. D., being a minister of the said Church and a member of the Presbytery of New York, with teaching that the Bible is full of errors, and that the Church and reason have divine origin, and that the Bible is full of errors, and that the Church and reason have divine origin, and that the Bible is full of errors.

Charge III.—The Presbyterian Church in the United States of America charges the Rev. Charles A. Briggs, D. D., being a minister of the said Church and a member of the Presbytery of New York, with teaching that the Bible is full of errors, and that the Church and reason have divine origin, and that the Bible is full of errors, and that the Church and reason have divine origin, and that the Bible is full of errors.

Charge IV.—The Presbyterian Church in the United States of America charges the Rev. Charles A. Briggs, D. D., being a minister of the said Church and a member of the Presbytery of New York, with teaching that the Bible is full of errors, and that the Church and reason have divine origin, and that the Bible is full of errors, and that the Church and reason have divine origin, and that the Bible is full of errors.

Charge V.—The Presbyterian Church in the United States of America charges the Rev. Charles A. Briggs, D. D., being a minister of the said Church and a member of the Presbytery of New York, with teaching that the Bible is full of errors, and that the Church and reason have divine origin, and that the Bible is full of errors, and that the Church and reason have divine origin, and that the Bible is full of errors.

Charge VI.—The Presbyterian Church in the United States of America charges the Rev. Charles A. Briggs, D. D., being a minister of the said Church and a member of the Presbytery of New York, with teaching that the Bible is full of errors, and that the Church and reason have divine origin, and that the Bible is full of errors, and that the Church and reason have divine origin, and that the Bible is full of errors.

Here is the vote:

Charge I. Not sustained, 69; Sustained, 59.

Charge II. Not sustained, 72; Sustained, 55.

Charge III. Not sustained, 72; Sustained, 55.

Charge IV. Not sustained, 72; Sustained, 55.

Charge V. Not sustained, 72; Sustained, 55.

Charge VI. Not sustained, 72; Sustained, 55.

Of the 129 members who voted 43 voted on all the charges for the prosecution and out of the latter 14 were older and 35 younger.

Some of the ministers who voted for acquittal were Dr. George Alexander, Dr. H. Van Dyke and six professors from the Union Theological Seminary, headed by Prof. Brown and Haines.

Dr. W. Buchanan, G. L. Shearer and J. Ford Sullivan were among the ministers who voted against Dr. Briggs.

The proceedings were over at 9 o'clock and the Briggs party were conveyed at the verdict.

The Presbytery decided to meet again Jan. 9 and the result was telegraphed to Dr. Briggs at his home.

It could not be definitely learned from Col. J. D. McKelvey, of the New York Presbytery, who happened along with the Presbytery, whether an appeal would be taken from the verdict, but it is most probable that such a step will be taken.

THREE ALARMS FOR THIS FIRE.

Midnight Blaze in a Harlem Dye Works.

Shortly after midnight this morning fire was discovered in the dyeing factory building at 623 and 325 East One Hundred and Nineteenth st., occupied by Hockstetter & Sons as a dye works.

The fire spread rapidly, and three alarms were sent in. By prompt work the flames were confined to the basement and ground floor of the building.

In the rear of the building, facing One Hundred and Twentieth street, are the stables of the Harlem Cal Pocket Company, which contained forty horses. These were in danger at one time, but were safely gotten out.

The fire is supposed to be the result of a defective furnace. The loss will amount to \$15,000.

Mrs. Dana Withdraws Divorce Suit.

Charles B. Dana, of Natchez, Miss., whose wife, after three weeks of married life, secured a warrant for his arrest for desertion, has returned.

At New York, where he was, he was yesterday to withdraw the complaint against her husband, who was formerly a waitress at 215 West Fourteenth street, where Dana became acquainted with her.

and a fit in an "L" Train.

Edward Lunsterman, thirty-four, of 651 Bedford avenue, Brooklyn, had a fit in an elevated railroad train at Eighth avenue and the Hudson and Sixth street street this morning. He recovered and left for home.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria.

When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria.

When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria.

When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria.

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## IT WILL BE A PALATIAL HOME.

The Magnificent Residence to Be Built by John Jacob Astor.

To Surpass in Elegance Anything on Fifth Avenue.

One of the most beautiful residences in this city, and, in fact, in the country, will be that which Mr. John Jacob Astor will erect at the northeast corner of Fifth avenue and sixty-fifth street.

That Mr. Astor intended to build a magnificent home for himself and family has long been known, and that it would surpass in elegance most of the mansions of the millionaires of this city was to be expected.

Several months ago Richard M. Hunt, the well-known architect, was engaged by Mr. Astor to prepare the plans and specifications for the new house, and yesterday the drawings were filed in the office of the Secretary of the Park board, and were subsequently approved by that body.

The plans of the new building had to be submitted to the Park Commissioners because the bay windows will extend beyond the building line on the Fifth avenue side about three feet, and Fifth avenue is a Park-way.

The mansion will be four stories high and will have a mansard roof, four dormer windows and two towers. The entire building will be constructed of Indiana limestone and will be built in what is known as the style of Francis I. There will be no other style used in the house, which will be located on the corner of Fifth and sixty-fifth streets.

The house will have a frontage on Fifth avenue of 135 feet and a depth of 100 feet on sixty-fifth street. It will be 28 feet high.

The height of the first story will be 20 feet, of the second 17 feet, and of the third and fourth 15 feet.

A magnificent driveway will lead to the entrance. This will be covered with glass and be 10 feet high.

There will be two bay windows on the Fifth avenue side and two on sixty-fifth street. These windows will be 12 feet 1 inch wide and extend up two stories. They will be located on the southeast corner of the building.

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## SAVED A VESSEL AND ITS CREW.

Mrs. Annie E. Wilson, the Only Known Female Navigator.

Her Last Day as Assistant Matron on Ellis Island.

Mrs. Annie E. Wilson, who has resigned her position as assistant matron on Ellis Island and from Uncle Sam's employ today to live with her daughters at Canarsie, is a noted woman with a remarkable history.

She is distinguished above her sex as the only known female navigator, and was given special honors by the British Government for heroically saving a vessel and its crew from destruction during a terrific gale at sea.

On Feb. 14, 1875, the ship *Sharon*, 1,800 tons, left New York for Liverpool under command of Capt. Wilson. The captain's young wife was aboard. She was born in the East Indies, and married when she was only fifteen years old. She had accompanied her husband for seven years in his travels over all seas.

The *Sharon* ran into a gale off the New-foundland banks. It struck the vessel with sudden and terrific force and tore her sails to ribbons. The *Sharon* was driven down the coast by the force of the gale.

A tremendous wave struck the ship and she broke on her beam ends. Capt. Wilson had his shoulder-blade and collar-bone broken, and a part of the crew were killed. The ship was disabled by the wreckage.

The ship was in imminent danger of being swallowed in the high seas with the wreckage hanging overboard and no officer to command.

The captain's wife then displayed her courage and seamanship. She assumed charge of the vessel, gave orders to the sailors to clear away the wreckage, divided the crew into four watches and had the pumps worked.

The ship was looking badly. Mrs. Wilson told the men she was going to assume her husband's place and would take them safely to port. They gave her a cheer and obeyed all her orders.

She shaped the ship's course for Bermuda, but having only a little sail left and only the foremast complete, she rigged a jury-mast. The wind loaded her off and she could not make harbor.

Her husband was in the cabin delirious from a high fever. She put the vessel before the wind and steered for St. Thomas, where she arrived after twenty-five days.

The crew said all their lives were saved by the pluck and skill of a woman.

The people of St. Thomas expressed great admiration for the woman's heroic act. The British Consul presented her with a gold chain and locket, having a ship in full sail on one side and her name on the other.

When the *Sharon* sailed for Liverpool, two months later, cannon were fired on the island and all the shipping dipped their flags in Mrs. Wilson's honor. At Liverpool a number of merchants gave a dinner in recognition of her bravery and presented her with a purse of gold.

When Capt. Wilson died his widow took up her residence in this city. In 1879 she was appointed custom-house inspector at the request of all the steamship agents and downtown shipping men.

She went with Capt. Weber when he took charge of immigration matters. Mrs. Wilson has married again.

DEATH OF REV. SAMUEL BUEL.

The Protestant Episcopal Church Loses One of its Leading Men.

Rev. Dr. Samuel Buel, who died yesterday at the age of seventy-eight, was one of the most learned men of the Episcopal church in America. He was the author of several often-quoted books on Episcopal doctrine.

He was graduated from Williams College in 1836. In 1867 he became a Doctor of Divinity in Columbia College. From 1867 to 1871 he was professor of Ecclesiastical History and Divinity at Newbury Hall, Fairbairn, Minn.

In 1885 Dr. Buel was taken into the General Theological Seminary of the Protestant Episcopal Church, where, at the time of his death, he was Professor Emeritus of Systematic Theology.

Dr. Buel's wife was Miss Jane Wilmer, daughter of the President of William and Mary College, and she was the mother of several children, only one son, Samuel Buel, Jr., a civil engineer, is living.

The funeral will take place from the chapel of the seminary in Twenty-first street at 3 o'clock to-morrow afternoon. The burial will be in Oakwood cemetery, Troy, N. Y.